

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

A NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF EVANSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL



USI Eagles basketball players visited with patients and staff after the game signing autographs and posing for pictures.

USI SCREAMING EAGLES CAPTIVATE CROWD DURING HALF TIME SHOW

The patients at Evansville State Hospital were treated to an exciting basketball game in the hospital's gym on the afternoon of Friday, April 9. Special guests at the 7th annual staff/patient game were several ***USI Screaming Eagles men's basketball team players***. They captivated the crowd during half time with drills and trick shots.

Everyone cheered for the half court shots, dunks, alley-oops and the extremely difficult dunk

completed after hurdling over a fellow teammate's head! The USI Eagles played along with the patients in the 3rd and 4th quarters. It was fun to see the team spirit the players used while feeding the ball to a patient to bring home the points. One patient commented that he was "playing with the big guys now!" The two Cheer Teams, also made up of staff and patients, had everyone rooting for their favorite team. The Red Rockets lead the entire game and was victorious over the Green Hornets in the end.

The patients received souvenir shirts and team photos that were given out after the half-time break, along with donations from ***Tri Kappa*** which included some USI shirts, caps, and other sports team attire. After the game, the USI Eagles mingled amongst the crowd, signed autographs and posed for pictures. Everyone was treated to popcorn and soft drinks. A special thanks to ***USI Coaches Brent Owen and Gerard Good*** and the USI basketball players ***C. J. Trotter, Nick Duncheon, Mohamed Ntumba, Collin Grantz, Kevin Gant, Brandon Hogg and Lawrence Thomas***.

Inside this issue:

Arts & Crafts on Display at Mental Health Fair	2
Volunteer & Retiree Fiesta Celebration	3
Person-First Language	4

OF NOTE:

26 employees gave 22 successful units of blood at the 4/26 American Red Cross Blood Drive.

2 SECC auctions raised \$236 for the Family Travel Fund and \$295 for the Patient Recreation Fund.

FIESTA FAMILY MIXER

Family members and friends were invited to a fiesta luncheon on Sunday, May 1 in the hospital gym. Folk dancers of ***Olas Hispanic Folk Group*** performed for the 75 attendees. Patients and their families and friends posed with sombreros and maracas, and made colorful frames for their pictures. Dietary provided a taco casserole meal, and guests snacked on nacho cheese, chips and lime drinks. A guessing game consisted of guessing the number of wrapped fiesta mints in a jar. Winners received beautiful handmade quilts, donated by the ***Raintree Quilters Guild*** and the ***Beavin Family***.



Olas folk dancers performed at both the family mixer and volunteer/retiree celebration.

PATIENT HIGHLIGHTS

Arts & Crafts on Display at Mental Health Fair

A sampling of craft items and artwork created in therapeutic programming at Evansville State Hospital was displayed on Saturday, May 8 at the Mental Health Fair in Eastland Mall. The educational fair was one of several awareness events in May hosted by Mental Health America of Vanderburgh County and sponsored by Vectren and St. Mary's. Fiesta decorations used for the recent family mixer and volunteer/retiree celebration made a colorful display which included tissue paper flowers, plastic plate/cup sombreros, and accordion spring flowers. Fleece tie pillows, woven rugs and placemats, beaded key chains, ceramics, and samples of latch hook, cross stitch and crochet projects were also displayed. Information on mental health services and agencies in the area were distributed; participants included JMHA, NAMI, St. Mary's Kempf Bipolar Wellness Center, Evansville State Hospital, and Southwestern Behavioral Healthcare.



MHA volunteers Eileen Crow and Sharon Luzader work at the educational fair at Eastland Mall on Saturday, May 8.



Veterans' Luncheon

The **American Legion Auxiliary** honored the nine veterans at Evansville State Hospital with a Grandy's catered chicken meal on May 11. Attending the luncheon were legion members **Pat Thomas and Susan Wells**, along with employees **Fr. Robert Giffin, Pam Grewe, Theresa Arvin, and Robert Jenkins**. With Memorial Day approaching, the veterans were thanked for their service and recognized for their bravery and fortitude. The junior auxiliary surprised the veterans in February with homemade Valentine cards.



Volunteer Shirley Clark and retiree Sue Calli take top prize for "Best Dressed" at fiesta celebration.



Retirees at the April 30 Celebration were front row—Mary Garrett, Mareem Horn, Toni Arthur, Ina Mae Lathom; middle row—Merridy Little, Nancy Woodruff, Edna West, Elaine Burns, Jonelle Curtis, Mirrell Ford, Wilda Burnworth; back row—Jeanie McCallister, Don Roberts, Sue Calli, Jan Stratman, Bob Glaser, and Kenny Keller. Not pictured were retiree Suzanne Jamison and guests Rose Williams and Faye Thompson.



HELPING HANDS

Volunteer & Retiree Fiesta Celebration

56 volunteers and retirees were in attendance at the annual recognition event on Friday, April 30. Attendees were thanked for their service and dedication to ESH. Three folk dancers from the **Olas Hispanic Folk Group** performed for the audience. Employees showcased their acting abilities by playing characters during the mystery, *The Case of the Missing Maracas*. Guests were given a brief story and purchased clues with “play” money. **U of E Mortano Hall Council volunteers Laura Holsapple, Cara Parks, and Kelsey Baize** guessed the thief correctly and used the least amount of clues/money to solve the mystery. Guests were encouraged to wear colorful sombreros and outfits to the fiesta. **Retiree Sue Calli and volunteer Shirley Clark** were voted “Best Dressed”. Game prizes included colorful jewelry, blankets, and rugs, as well as Hot Tamale candy, and lottery tickets. The event including the meal and door prizes was provided by donations from hospital employees. Volunteers received certificates during the week of April 18 in honor of National Volunteer Week. During the 2009 calendar year, ESH volunteers logged in 1,250 hours of service.



Volunteers at the fiesta celebration were from left to right bottom row—Jo Ann Morris, Bernice Rainey, Mary Dickens, David Dickens, Evelyn Lemmons, Shirley Clark; middle row—Bonita Watson, Margaret Drone, Pat Burggrabe, Marge Ennis, Susan Duncan, Laura Holsapple, Cara Parks, Kelsey Baize, Carol Miskinis, Sue Hardesty, Ella Minor, June Baker, Jim Key; back row—Oliver Hodge, Rosie Mesker, Bill George, Karen Reising, Scott Lancaster, Gladys Mason, Jose Manning, Fran Devine, Betty Jones, Ruth Wathen, and Ray Pritchett. Not pictured but in attendance were volunteers Dan Hartman and Tami Light.

In Memory Of... Each year, we remember our retirees, volunteers, and friends of ESH who have passed away in the past year.

Chester Alderson	Ralph Goebel	Bertine McGuire	Janet Walker
Lois Becker	Dr. Donald Greiner	Vernell Newman	Patsy Walker
Catherine Burggrabe	Agnes Annie Hanes	Myrtis Palmer	Pearl Walls
Lillian Butler	Sharon Hochstetler	Jeffrey Perry	Sue Wills
Betty Calvert	Jackson Humphrey	Father Ray Reising	Lillian Wood
Edith Christen	Jim Kuehn	Myrtle Scales	Eula Woodring
Hilda Cook	William Maurer	Marjorie Schmidt	
Irma Dassel	Mary Lou McAlear	William Schraner, Jr.	



JOIN THE FUN!

June 12—Sign up for the ESH Homeward Bound Team online @www.homewardboundindiana.org

July 8, 9, & 10—Sign up for the ESH Bowl for the Cure team led by retiree and cancer survivor Marcia Barclay—contact Community Services at 812-469-6800, ext. 4970

COMMUNITY CONNECTION is published every other month for friends of Evansville State Hospital. News items are welcome and should be submitted to the Community Services Office.

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.IN.GOV

PERSON-FIRST LANGUAGE MATTERS!

The proper use of language is one of the most important parts of interacting with other people. How can you communicate effectively with someone if they don't understand what you're saying, or if they are offended by the way you say it? Over the course of time, the way people of different religious, ethnic, and cultural groups are referred to has evolved based on a variety of reasons. Often, terminology changes because certain words or phrases are deemed unacceptable or offensive by members of a particular culture. Deciding how you want to be addressed is a source of empowerment for many people. This sort of self-determination is key to becoming an equal partner in society.

Person-first language allows people with disabilities to avoid being labeled and categorized. It lets everyone know that you see that the person has a disability but that the person, and NOT his or her disability, is what is most important. Therefore, the person is addressed first. For example "That woman with a visual impairment has a beautiful assistance dog." rather than "Look at that blind lady's beautiful dog." Being identified by just one trait that doesn't represent the whole of who you are can be very frustrating. No one wants to be referred to as "that chubby guy over there", or "the lady with gray hair can answer your question". Being polite and courteous to fellow employees, acquaintances, and even strangers on the street makes all of our lives better. So the next time you meet someone with a disability, make sure that you address him or her first, not the disability.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 21—Superintendent's Ball
June 4—Hospital Wide Olympics

NEW EMPLOYEES

Allen Attebury, Nursing Service
Catherine Clark, Nursing Service
Mary Jo Evans, Nursing Service
Kenneth Griffin, Jr., Nursing Service
Holly McCauley, Nursing Service
Brandon McCormick, Security
Sara Mercado, Nursing Service
Jane Weimer, Nursing Service

GOODBYE

Jeanie McCallister, Dietary



THANKS!

- **Stewart Enterprises for Kentucky Derby shirts & hats**
- **W.O.W. Red Hat Society Members for the Red Hat memorabilia and novelties**
- **Ivy Tech Intro to Human Services Class for goody bags for D Unit**
- **Henry Reis students for preparing 250 green ribbons for Mental Health Awareness Month**
- **Telephone Pioneers for the candy-filled Easter eggs**
- **Victoria Humphrey for the memorial contribution to ESH's Patient Family Travel Fund**
- **Ann Collins for continued support of the Patient Indigent and Family Travel Funds**